

Amendment

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 24, 26 and 31 without prejudice and disclaimer.

Please amend claims 1, 9, 25, 27 and 29 as follows:

ε¹ 1. (Twice amended) A keratinocyte growth factor fragment [comprising a portion of an amino acid sequence of mature, full-length keratinocyte growth factor, wherein the fragment] that exhibits at least a 2-fold increase in mitogenic activity as compared to a mature, recombinant, full-length keratinocyte growth factor, [and] wherein the fragment lacks [a sequence comprising] the first 23 N-terminal amino acid residues of the mature, full-length keratinocyte growth factor but retains the remainder of the molecule.

7 59. (Twice amended) A ~~therapeutic~~ composition comprising:

ε² (a) a keratinocyte growth factor fragment that [comprises a portion of an amino acid sequence of mature, full-length keratinocyte growth factor, wherein the portion] exhibits at least a 2-fold increase in mitogenic activity as compared to the mature, recombinant, full-length keratinocyte growth factor, wherein the fragment [but] lacks [a sequence comprising] the first 23 N-terminal amino acid residues of the mature, full-length keratinocyte growth factor but retains the remainder of the molecule, and

7 (b) a ~~pharmaceutically acceptable~~ carrier.

ε³ 7 25. (Amended) An analog of the keratinocyte growth factor fragment as claimed in claim [24] 34⁶, wherein the analog differs from the keratinocyte growth factor fragment of claim 34 in having at least one conservative substitution selected from the group of substitutions consisting of a

ε3
word.

substitution of a leucine with an isoleucine or an isoleucine with a leucine, a substitution of a leucine with a valine or a valine with a leucine, a substitution of an aspartic acid with a glutamic acid or a glutamic acid with an aspartic acid and a substitution of a threonine with a serine or a serine with a threonine [of an amino acid with a structurally related amino acid] and further wherein the analog exhibits the biological activity of the keratinocyte growth factor fragment.

ε4 *7* *differs from 24 keratinocyte growth factor fragment of claim 34 in having*

227. (Amended) An analog of the keratinocyte growth factor fragment as claimed in claim [24] ^{34,6} wherein the analog has at least one cysteine residue substituted by another amino acid and further wherein the analog exhibits the biological activity of the keratinocyte growth factor fragment.

ε5 *7*

29. (Amended) A ~~therapeutic~~ composition comprising:

(a) the keratinocyte growth factor fragment as claimed in claim [24] ^{34,6} and

(b) a ~~pharmaceutically acceptable~~ carrier.

ε6 *7*

Please add the following new claim:

ε6 *7*

--34. (New) The keratinocyte growth factor fragment as ⁰claimed in claim 1 having the amino acid sequence depicted at amino acid residues 24 to 163, inclusive, of Figure 1. ^(Amino Acid Residues 55-174, inclusive, of SEQ ID NO: 1)

Remarks

Introductory Comments:

Claims 1-4, 9 and 24-33 were examined in the Office Action dated December 7, 1995 (Paper No. 17), and rejected

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